

HDX₃

User's Guide

12-1685



HDX₃

Introduction

HD Radio™ stations offer digital-quality sound, simultaneous data transmission, and multiple channels of programming, all from their familiar location on the radio dial. The *HDX3™* provides rich, lifelike sound and simple operation in a compact stereo system. Its smooth, natural response and room-filling sound enhance audio fidelity on both AM and FM bands.



What's In The Box?

- o *HDX3* console
- o Speakers (2)
- o Speaker cables (2)
- o AM Antenna
- o FM Antennas (2)
- o Remote Control

Who Is Polk Audio

The acoustic system of the *HDX3* was designed for maximum performance by Polk Audio, an award-winning designer and manufacturer of high-performance audio products for over 30 years. Polk Audio holds over 50 patents for advances in audio design and technology. Polk's products include loudspeakers and electronic components for home, auto and marine applications, including the first XM satellite radio home component tuner, the world's first audiophile-grade active IP-addressable loudspeaker, the first THX Ultra2 Certified in-ceiling loudspeaker, and the first entertainment system to include HD Radio technology, satellite radio capability and a DVD player. For more information please visit www.polkaudio.com.

HD Radio Technology & Multicasting

The single largest technological advancement in radio in more than 45 years, HD Radio technology is the new standard for digital AM and FM radio in the US and around the world. HD Radio technology transforms your radio listening experience in exciting new ways, offering you the quality, choice and interactive data services that are fast becoming a new information and entertainment standard.

Multicasting, which is the ability to broadcast multiple program streams over a single FM frequency (97.7-2, 97.7-3, etc.), greatly increases the amount and diversity of content you can access. HD Radio technology offers:

- o Static-free, crystal-clear reception
- o CD-quality sound on FM Digital; FM-stereo quality sound on AM
- o Stations stay in their well-known, traditional place on the radio dial
- o A variety of "data services" ranging from text-based information (artist name, song title, weather alerts, school closings and more) to live traffic reports, all of which would scroll across your receiver display.

To find HD Radio stations in your area, please visit www.hdradio.com.

HD Radio™ Technology Manufactured Under License From iBiquity Digital Corporation. iBiquity Digital, the HD Radio logo, and the HD logo are registered trademarks of iBiquity Digital Corporation. HD Radio™ is a trademark of iBiquity Digital Corporation U.S. and Foreign Patents.

Polk Audio is a Directed Electronics company which trades on NASDAQ under the symbol DEIX. Investor information can be found at <http://investor.directed.com>. Polk Audio is a registered trademark of Polk Audio, Inc. *HDX3* is a trademark of Polk Audio, Inc.

Setting Up Your HDX3

1. Connect The FM Antenna

To attach either of the provided FM antennas, connect it to the 75 ohm port and position for best reception. For optimal FM reception, use the T-shaped dipole. Position its "arms" laterally or vertically for best reception of your favorite stations. The black wire antenna may be adequate for receiving strong stations in urban areas, while the dipole will provide better reception of weak stations from more rural locations.

Note For Cable Radio

The HDX3 can accept cable FM programming. Contact your cable TV provider for assistance connecting your radio to a cable FM feed. The cable installation must be able to filter re-emission of the RF spectrum so that only the FM band, and not the cable TV signal, is transmitted to the radio.

2. Connect The AM Antenna

Connect the AM antenna wires, matching the color to the AM antenna terminals and position the antenna for best reception.

3. Connect The Speakers

Connect the speaker wires to the + / - terminals on the speakers and on the HDX3 console (RED to RED and BLACK to BLACK). For best stereo reproduction, each speaker should be approximately the same distance away from the primary listening position, and this distance should be approximately equal to the separation between the two speakers. Finally, for best bass performance place the speakers at least 1" (25 mm) from a back wall.

Note

To avoid blocking the cooling vents on the sides of the HDX3 console, place the speakers at least 1" away from the console sides.

4. Connect The Power Supply

Plug the power-supply cord into a wall outlet.

5. Connect To An Audio System (Optional)

To connect the HDX3 to another audio device, connect a stereo cable (not supplied) to the **LINE OUT (VAR)** port. The HDX3 volume controls also control the volume for playback, so this full-range output can be used with a subwoofer or a full-range speaker system.

6. Connect An Auxiliary Device (MP3 Player) (Optional)

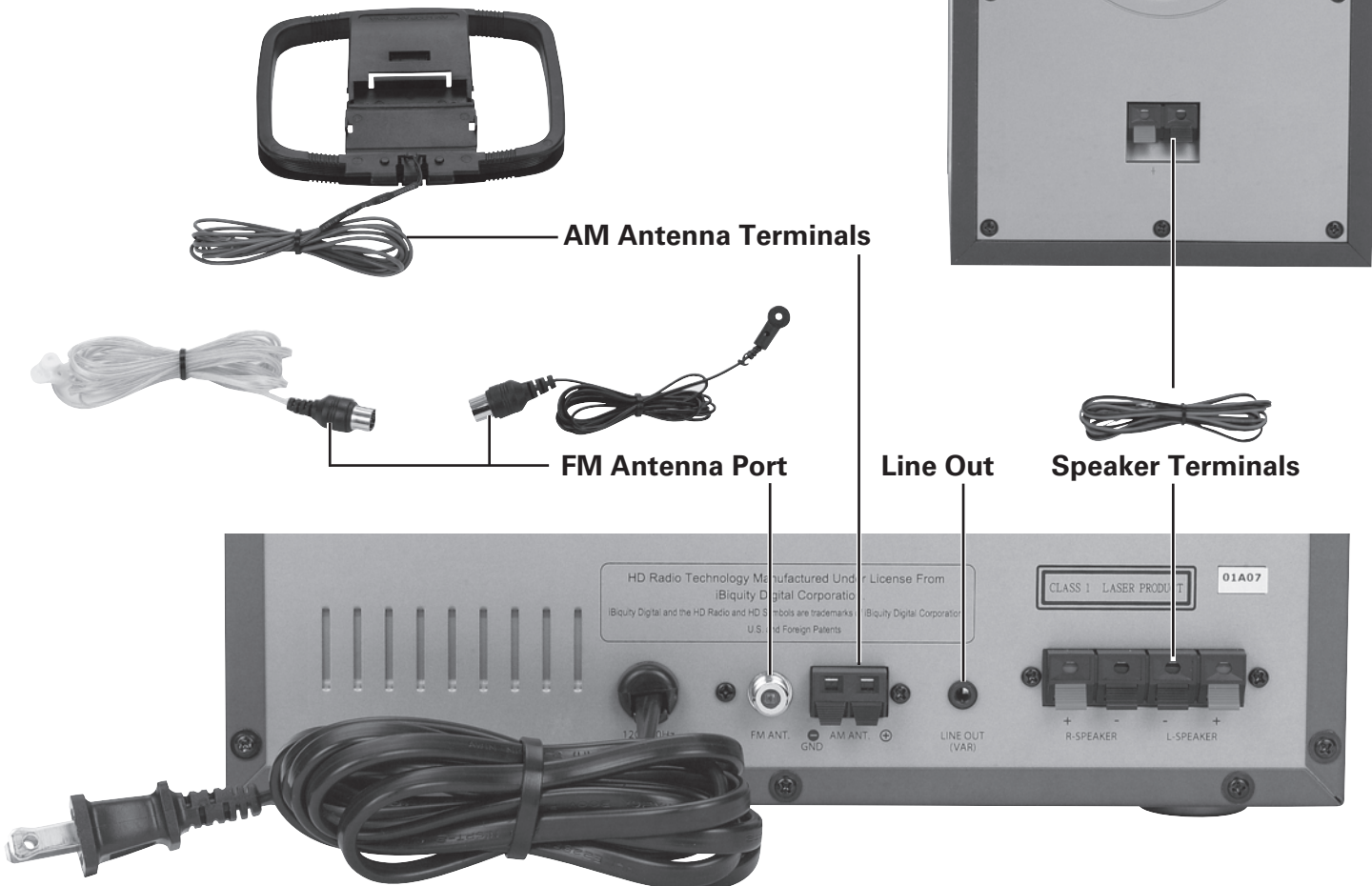
Turn down the volume level on both the device you are connecting and the HDX3, and plug the device into the **AUX** port on the front of the HDX3. Start with the volume in the 12 o'clock position.

Connecting Headphones

Connect the headphones into the stereo minijack on the front of the console.

Note

The headphone jack can be used as a stereo output jack. When you connect headphones, the speakers are muted.



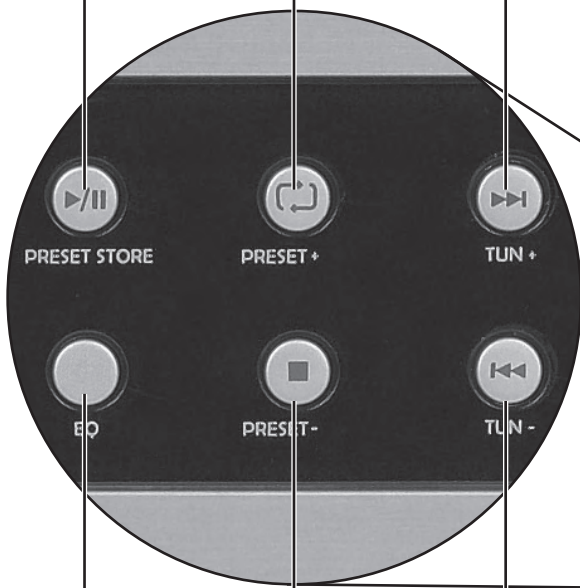
**Play
Pause
Preset Store**

**Repeat / Random
Preset+**

**Fast-Forward
Next Track
TUN+**

Console Controls

The buttons on the *HDX3* console are multi-functional. The labels on the buttons indicate CD functions and the labels below the buttons indicate radio functions.



EQ
Push to set EQ from Normal, Classic, Rock, Jazz, Speech. EQ settings are not available when using headphones.

**Stop
Preset-**

**Rewind
Previous Track
TUN-**

Volume / Mode Power



CD Tray

CD Eject

AUX (input)

Headphones (output)

Remote Control

Before using the remote control for the first time, pull out the plastic tab from the battery compartment.

The buttons on your remote control correspond to the controls on the *HDX3* console with the addition of a **MUTE** button, **CLOCK** button, and numbered buttons for access to preset radio stations.

To replace the remote control battery (CR2025), press the battery release and slide the battery compartment open.

Cautions:

- o Danger of explosion if battery is incorrectly replaced.
- o Replace only with the same or equivalent type.



Power

Repeat /Random

Press to access custom playback options: Repeat 1, Repeat All, and Random.

Mute

The *HDX3* console remains muted until you press **MUTE** again or adjust the volume.

1-6

Press to access preset stations.

**Battery
Release**



Tuning A Station

1. Press the Volume/Mode knob on the *HDX3* console or **MODE** on the remote control to select either an **AM** or **FM** mode.
2. Use the tuner buttons on the *HDX3* console or on the remote control to select a station.
3. To search for a station, press and hold the tuner buttons. When the *HDX3* recognizes an HD Radio channel, the HD Radio logo appears.

HD Radio Multicast Channels (FM Only)

In addition to digital-quality sound, some HD Radio broadcasters offer multiple programs simultaneously using multicast channels on their existing frequency.

If the station offers multicast programming, “-1” appears next to the station frequency. Use the tuner buttons to select multicast channels. Tuning up the frequency band will take you to that radio station’s next subchannel, which would have a “-2” after its frequency.

Audio Delay In HD Radio Systems

Digital systems inherently produce an audio delay. The *HDX3* uses a station’s analog signal to tune the station. After approximately 5 seconds, the analog audio blends to digital. The blend is typically smooth, but if the station has not implemented their HD Radio broadcast correctly, you may experience a skip. [This is not a problem with your radio.](#) It is a broadcast implementation issue, which the station should correct over time.

Playing CDs

1. Turn on the *HDX3*.
2. Press the Volume/Mode knob on the *HDX3* console or **MODE** on the remote control to select **CD** mode.
3. Press the CD Eject button. The CD tray opens.
4. Load the CD in the CD tray and press the CD Eject button again. The CD tray closes.
5. Press **PLAY**. Use the controls on the *HDX3* console or on the remote control.
6. (Optional) Press the Repeat / Random button to access custom playback options: Repeat 1, Repeat All, and Random.

FAQ

Why does my audio quality change after a few seconds on some HD Radio stations?

HD Radio stations blend analog signals to digital HD Radio signals. The blend is typically smooth, but in some cases, the audio quality can take a few seconds to reach enhanced digital levels. This is not an issue with your HD Radio receiver.

What can I do if I my audio is not clear or I don’t hear any audio?

If your radio audio isn’t clear or you don’t hear any audio, you may be experiencing one of the following conditions:

- o Check all connections, including power and antenna.
- o Is the radio muted? If so, unmute the radio or turn up the volume.

Only the main channel contains an analog signal. If you tune directly to a station’s multicast channel, the audio will delay for approximately 5 seconds. This is normal operation.

Note

HD Radio broadcasts in the AM band may terminate at night due to FCC regulations.

Saving Stations Into Preset Memory

The *HDX3* provides 6 preset channels for each AM and FM band (AM1, AM2, FM1, FM2) for 24 total presets.

1. Manually tune the station.
2. Press **PRESET STORE** on the *HDX3* console or on the remote control.
3. On the remote control, press the number button to select a preset location. On the *HDX3* console, press **PRESET+** / **PRESET-** to select a preset location.

4. Press **PRESET STORE** again.

Recalling Stations From Memory

1. Press the Volume/Mode knob on the *HDX3* console or **MODE** on the remote control to select either an **AM** or **FM** mode.
2. On the remote control, press the number button to recall the preset station. On the *HDX3* console, press **PRESET+** / **PRESET-** to recall the preset station.

Setting The Clock

1. Press and hold **CLOCK** on the remote control for 2 seconds. The clock display changes to the date over the time and then enters clock set mode with the month flashing.
2. Use the tuner buttons on the remote control to set the month, then press **CLOCK**. The date flashes.
3. Use the tuner buttons to set the date, then press **CLOCK**. The year flashes.
4. Use the tuner buttons to set the year, then press **CLOCK**. The hour flashes.
5. Use the tuner buttons to set the hour, then press **CLOCK**. The minute flashes.
6. Use the tuner buttons to set the minute, then press **CLOCK**. The AM/PM setting flashes.
7. Use the tuner buttons to set the AM/PM setting.
8. Press and hold **CLOCK**. The clock displays the new date and time.

- o Is the radio in AUX mode? If so, your auxiliary device may not be sending audio signals or may not be correctly connected.
- o Is anything plugged into the headphone jack? If so, unplug it.
- o Is the signal too weak? If so, tune to a stronger station or reposition your radio and/or antenna.
- o If you are using an antenna other than the one supplied, make sure the antenna supports FM reception. If the antenna uses an FM trap, make sure the FM trap is off.

Note



If you are using an amplified antenna with adjustable gain, turn down the gain all the way and adjust slowly upward.

Important Safety Instructions— Read Before Operating Equipment


This product was designed and manufactured to meet strict quality and safety standards. There are, however, some installation and operation precautions of which you should be particularly aware.

- 1. Read Instructions.** Read all the safety and operating instructions before operating the system.
- 2. Retain Instructions.** Retain the safety and operating instructions for future reference.
- 3. Heed Warnings.** Adhere to all warnings on the appliances and in the operating instructions.
- 4. Follow Instructions.** Follow all operating and use instructions.
- 5. Cleaning.** Unplug the product before cleaning. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosol cleaners. Use a damp cloth for cleaning.
- 6. Attachments.** Do not use attachments not recommended by the product manufacturer as they may cause hazards.
- 7. Water and Moisture.** Do not use this product near water — for example, near a bath tub, wash bowl, kitchen sink, or laundry tub, in a wet basement, or near a swimming pool.
- 8. Accessories.** Do not place this product on an unstable cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table. The product may fall, causing serious injury to a child or adult, and serious damage. Use only with a cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table recommended by the manufacturer, or sold with the product. Any mounting should follow the manufacturer's instructions, using mounting accessories recommended by the manufacturer.
- 9. Carts and Stands.** This product should be used only with a cart or stand that is recommended by the manufacturer. Move an appliance and cart combination with care. Quick stops, excessive force, and uneven surfaces may cause the combination to overturn.
- 10. Ventilation.** Slots and openings in the cabinet provide ventilation, ensure reliable operation, and protect it from overheating. Do not block or cover these openings. The openings should never be blocked by placing the products on a bed, sofa, rug, or other similar surface. This product should never be placed near or over a radiator or heat register. This product should not be placed in a built-in installation such as a bookcase or rack unless proper ventilation is provided or the manufacturer's instructions have been adhered to.
- 11. Power Sources.** This product should be operated only from the type of power source indicated on the marking labels. If you are not sure of the type of power supply to your home, consult your appliance dealer or local power company.
- 12. Grounding or Polarization.** This product is equipped with polarized alternating-current line plugs (plugs having one blade wider than the other). This plug will fit into the power outlet only one way. This is a safety feature. If you are unable to insert the plug fully into the outlet, try reversing the plug. If the plug still does not fit, contact an electrician to replace your obsolete outlet. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized plug.
- 13. Power Cord Protection.** The power-supply cord should be routed so that it is not likely to be walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against it, paying particular attention to cords at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the appliances.
- 14. Lightning.** For added protection during a lightning storm, or when left unattended and unused for long periods of time, unplug it from the wall outlet and disconnect the antenna or cable system. This will prevent damage to the product due to lightning and power-line surges.
- 15. Power Lines.** An outside antenna system should not be located near overhead power lines or other electric light or power circuits, or where it can fall into such power lines or circuits. When installing an outside antenna system, extreme care should be taken to keep from touching such power lines or circuits as contact with them might be fatal.
- 16. Overloading.** Do not overload wall outlets and extension cords as this can result in a risk of fire or electric shock.
- 17. Object and Liquid Entry.** Never push objects of any kind into this product through openings, as they may touch dangerous voltage points or short out parts that could result in a fire or electric shock. Never spill liquid of any kind on this audio/video product.


- 18. Servicing.** Do not attempt to service this product yourself, as opening or removing covers may expose you to dangerous voltage or other hazards. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Unplug this product from wall outlets and refer servicing to qualified service personnel under the following conditions:
 - a. When the power supply cord or plug is damaged.
 - b. If liquid has been spilled, or objects have fallen into the product.
 - c. If the product has been exposed to rain or water.
 - d. If the product does not operate normally by following the operating instructions. Adjust only those controls that are covered by the operating instructions, as an improper adjustment of other controls may result in damage and will often require extensive work by a qualified technician to restore the product to its normal operation.
 - e. If the product has been dropped or the cabinet has been damaged.
 - f. When the product exhibits a distinct change in performance—this indicates a need for service.
- 19. Replacement Parts.** When replacement parts are required, be sure the service technician has used replacement parts specified by the manufacturer or that the parts have the same characteristics as the original part. Unauthorized substitutions may result in fire, electric shock or other hazards.
- 20. Safety Check.** Upon completion of any service or repairs to this product, ask the service technician to perform safety checks to determine that the product is in proper operating condition.
- 21. Indoor Use.** This product is not intended for use outdoors.
- 22. Product Disposal.** Certain international, national and/or local laws and/or regulations may apply regarding the disposal of this product. For further detailed information, please contact the retailer where you purchased this product.

**CAUTION**
RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK
DO NOT OPEN

CAUTION: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER (OR BACK). NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL.



The lightning flash with arrowhead symbol, within an equilateral triangle, is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated dangerous voltage within the product's enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock to persons.



The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.

WARNING
TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS APPLIANCE TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.

CAUTION
TO PREVENT ELECTRIC SHOCK, MATCH WIDE BLADE OF PLUG TO WIDE SLOT, FULLY INSERT.



CAUTION!

THIS PRODUCT UTILIZES A LASER. USE OF CONTROLS OR ADJUSTMENTS OR PERFORMANCE OF PROCEDURES OTHER THAN THOSE SPECIFIED HEREIN MAY RESULT IN HAZARDOUS RADIATION EXPOSURE. DO NOT OPEN THE COVER AND DO NOT REPAIR YOURSELF. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL.

IMPORTANT FOR LASER PRODUCTS

1. CLASS 1 LASER PRODUCT

2. DANGER: Visible and invisible laser radiation when open and interlock failed or defeated. Avoid direct exposure to beam.

3. CAUTION: Do not open the top cover. There are no user serviceable parts inside the Unit; leave all servicing to qualified service personnel.

Limited One Year Warranty

Polk Audio, Inc., warrants to the original retail purchaser only. This warranty will terminate automatically prior to its stated expiration if the original retail purchaser sells or transfers the Product to any other party.

Polk Audio, Inc., warrants, to the original retail purchaser only, that this HDX3 will be free from defects in material and workmanship for a period of one (1) year from the date of original retail purchase from a Polk Audio Authorized Dealer. To allow Polk Audio to offer the best possible warranty service, please register your new product online at: www.polkaudio.com/registration or call Polk customer service 800-377-7655 in the USA within ten (10) days of the date of original purchase. Be sure to keep your original purchase receipt.

Defective Products must be shipped, together with proof of purchase, prepaid insured to the Polk Audio Authorized Dealer from whom you purchased the Product, or to the Factory at: 2550 Britannia Boulevard, Suite A, San Diego, California 92154. Products must be shipped in the original shipping container or its equivalent; in any case the risk of loss or damage in transit is to be borne by you. If upon examination at the Factory or Polk Audio Authorized Dealer it is determined that the unit was defective in materials or workmanship at any time during this Warranty period, Polk Audio or the Polk Audio Authorized Dealer will, at its option, repair or replace this Product at no additional charge, except as set forth below.

All replaced parts and Products become the property of Polk Audio. Products replaced or repaired under this warranty will be returned to you, within a reasonable time, freight prepaid.

This warranty does not include service or parts to repair damage caused by accident, disaster, misuse, abuse, negligence, inadequate packing or shipping procedures, commercial use, voltage inputs in excess of the rated maximum of the unit, cosmetic appearance of cabinetry not directly attributable to defect in materials or workmanship, or service, repair, or modification of the Product which has not been authorized or approved by Polk Audio. This warranty shall terminate if the Serial number on the Product has been removed, tampered with or defaced.

This warranty is in lieu of all other expressed Warranties. If this Product is defective in materials or workmanship as warranted above, your sole remedy shall be repair or replacement as provided above. In no event will Polk Audio, Inc. be liable to you for any incidental or consequential damages arising out of the use or inability to use the Product, even if Polk Audio, Inc. or a Polk Audio Authorized Dealer has been advised of the possibility of such damages, or for any claim by any other party. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of consequential damages, so the above limitation and exclusion may not apply to you.

All implied warranties on this Product are limited to the duration of this expressed Warranty. Some states do not allow limitation on how long an implied Warranty lasts, so the above limitations may not apply to you. This Warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you also may have other rights which vary from state to state.

This Warranty applies only to Products purchased in Canada, the United States of America, its possessions, and U.S. and NATO armed forces exchanges and audio clubs.

The Warranty terms and conditions applicable to Products purchased in other countries are available from the Polk Audio Authorized Distributors in such countries.